

Message Text

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PAGE 01 POZNAN 00212 121004Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /021 W
-----030701 121006Z /17

O R 120910Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL POZNAN
TO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1374
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAQJST
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CDDKRP/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 13
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL KRAKOW

UNCLAS POZNAN 0212

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, OVIP, PL
SUBJ: OPENING OF THE 50TH POZNAN INTERNATIONAL FAIR

COMMERCE FOR B RT/OEWCA AND BEWT/OEWD

1. THE 50TH POZNAN INTERNATIONAL FAIR, FEATURING COMMERCIAL
EXIBITS FROM POLISH ENTERPRISES AND 38 FOREIGN COUNTRIES,
OPDMED ON TIME ON A CLOUDY, CHILLY DAY, JUNE 11. THE
OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY BEGAN AT 10:00 A.M IN FRONT
OF THE MAIN FAIR ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. WELCOMING
SPEECHES WERE MADE, FIRST BY THE PRESIDENT (MAYOR) OF
THE CITY OF POZNAN, WLADYSLAW SLEBODA, AND SECOND BY
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MINISTER OF FOREING TRADE JERZY OLSZEWSKI. IN HIS
REMARKS, THE MINISTER MENTIONED THE NAMES OF VISITING
FOREIGN DIGNITARIES, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE REP. LUCIEN N. NEDZI, (D.-MICH.).
POLISH OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE OPENING INCLUDED FIRST
SECRETARY EDWARD GIEREK, PRIME MINISTER PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ,
AND OTHER HIGH-LEVEL PARTY MEMBERS.

2. FOLLOWING THE OFFICIAL OPENING, THE U.S. DELEGATION, LED BY REP. NEDZI AND AMBASSADOR WILLIAM SCHAUFEELE, TOURED THE FAIRGROUNDS AND VISITED SEVERAL POLISH PAVILIONS.

3. AT 11:30 A.M THE U.S. DELEGATION TOURED THE U.S. PAVILION AND MET WITH EXHIBITORS IN EACH STAND. PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN.

4. AT 12:35 P.M THE U.S. PAVILION WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED. MRS. NEDZI CUT THE RIBBON. THERE WERE NO SPEECHES, BUT SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN.

5. AT 2:10 P.M THE POLISH GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISITED THE U.S. PAVILION. THE GROUP WAS LED BY MESSRS. GIEREK AND JAROSZEWICZ, ALONG WITH VICE-PREMIERS SZYDLAK AND JAGIELSKI AND MINISTER OLSZEWSKI. THEY WERE GREETED BY REP. AND MRS. NEDZI, AMBASSADOR SCHAUFEELE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. EXHIBITION, WILLIAM VITOUS, AND EMBASSY AND CONSULATE OFFICERS. THE VISIT LASTED 25 MINUTES, ABOUT TWICE AS LONG AS IN 1977. THE POLISH DELEGATION MADE SEVERAL STOPS TO TALK WITH EXHIBITORS, INCLUDING SOME WHO WERE NEW TO THE FAIR. A CHAMPAGNE TOAST WAS SERVED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE VISIT. COMMENT. THE U.S. PAVILION WAS ONE OF THE FEW WESTERN PAVILIONS ON THE POLISH DELEGATION'S SCHEDULE. OTHERS WERE GREAT BRITAIN, UNCLASSIFIED

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AUSTRIA, JAPAN, FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, AND ITALY. END COMMENT. LATER, AT A LUNCH GIVEN BY MINISTER OLSZEWSKI, REP. NEDZI AND AMB. SCHAUFEELE TALKED FURTHER WITH SECRETARY GIEREK AND PRIME MINISTER JAROSZEWICZ AND OTHER POLISH OFFICIALS.

6. WITH AN EXCELLENT EFFORT BY THE POLISH CONTRACTOR, POLEXPO, THE U.S. PAVILION WAS READY ON TIME RPT ON TIME FOR THE OPENING AND ALL EXHIBITORS WERE IN PLACE.

7. IN ADDITION, BEFORE OPENING DAY, THE U.S. PAVILION HOSTED AN EXHIBITORS' BRIEFING AND PRESS CONFERENCE ON JUNE 9 AND 10, RESPECTIVELY. BOTH WERE SUCCESSFUL. ONE HUNDRED AND TEN POLISH REPRESENTATIVES OF RADIO, TELEVISION, NEWSPAPERS, AND OTHER PERIODICALS ATTENDED THE PRESS CONFERENCE. EXPERIENCED OBSERVERS SAID IT WAS THE LARGEST TURNOUT IN RECENT MEMORY FOR THIS EVENT. AT BOTH MEETINGS, PRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY POZNAN CONSUL PATRICK FLOOD, POZNAN PRESS OFFICER PATRICK HODAI, MR. VITOUS, AND WARSAW TRADE CENTER DIRECTOR WILLIAM SCHRAGE.

FLOOD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE FAIRS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978POZNAN00212
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780244-1029
Format: TEL
From: POZNAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780669/aaaachvc.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3552d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2389371
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPENING OF THE 50TH POZNAN INTERNATIONAL FAIR COMMERCE FOR B RT/OEWCA AND BEWT/OEWTD
TAGS: BEXP, OVIP, PL
To: COM STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3552d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014